

Gallipolis Journal.

GALLIPOLIS, DECEMBER 24, 1868.

NEWS-ITEMS.

There is a report of a fight between a squad of citizens and thirty militia near Augusta, Ark., Tuesday, in which four militia men were killed.

During 1868, there were 331 lives lost on the lakes by disasters to vessels.

Mr. Coull, living near Parkersburg, West Virginia, blew out his brains last week. He was seventy, and his habits intemperate.

The legislature of West Virginia stands as follows: Senate, nineteen Republicans, three Democrats. House, forty-one Republicans, fifteen Democrats.

A communication furnished to the committee of Ways and Means, by the Secretary of War, shows that the military expenses from July 1st, 1865, to June 30th, 1868, were \$295,000,000, of which about \$100,000,000 were on account of liabilities incurred during the rebellion.

The Great Republic was sold in St. Louis for \$500,000, to H. K. Hurd, of which \$250,000 is in cash and \$250,000 in debts of the boat.

The Union Pacific Railroad Company has notified the Postal Department of its readiness to carry mails to Evanston, 957 miles west of Omaha.

A bill has been prepared, which will probably be introduced in Congress in a day or two, which will provide for the redemption of the present nickel coinage at the office of the Treasurer and Assistant Treasurer of the United States, its place to be supplied by a new series of small coin.

The President has nominated to the Senate Henry A. Smythe to be Minister to Russia; Alexander Cummings, of Pennsylvania, to be Commissioner of Internal Revenue; Wm. J. Allen, to be superintendent of Indian Affairs for Idaho and Montana; Benj. T. James, to be Chief Examiner for the Patent Office.

The popular vote in England gives the Liberals a majority of 172,000 more than fourteen per cent. of the whole number of votes given. The Scotch, however, who are the most important judges of the leading question, gave an overwhelming vote for the Liberals, giving five to one in the boroughs, and twenty in the counties a majority of about seven per cent. on the total county vote.

Taking Great Britain as a whole, the majority on the popular vote is about 232,000, in a total vote of 1,278,000 or more than sixteen per cent.

A man who has resided in Texas for over thirty years, who has fought upon the frontier against the Indians, and who served in the rebel army through the whole war, was recently denied an invitation to a public entertainment in Houston, because he favored the election of General Grant.

The New York Times says a scheme is on foot to have the tax on whisky again raised to two dollars, and Congress is being quietly secured its support of it.

By direction of the President, Major General O. O. Howard is honorably mustered out of the service of the United States as Major General of volunteers, to take effect the 1st of January. General Howard, consequently, falls back to his rank of Brigadier General in the regular army, to which he was appointed December 24, 1864.

The New Era, a Republican paper of Atlanta, opposes a further Congressional interference in the reconstruction of Georgia.

The U. S. District Court at Philadelphia has found a verdict against four hundred negroes of sugar, which were involved as molasses to defraud customs revenue. The amount involved is thirty thousand dollars.

Advices from the City of Mexico, to December 3, state that Gen. Rosencrans, accompanied by Gen. Stuart, had arrived and been cordially received.

The farm of ex-Governor W. H. in Princess Anne county, Virginia, so long held by the government, was on Thursday surrendered to the owner. The government also ordered the payment of rent to the owner of Liberty Farm for a year's use of it.

Mrs. Eli Parcells and her little girl, eight years of age, were burned to death last Saturday in Pickaway county, Ohio. The clothing of the child took fire at the hearth, and the flames communicated to the garments of the frightened mother.

The Duke of Cambridge, the cousin of Queen Victoria, receives for the various military offices held by him an income of over \$50,000 a year in gold, and he enjoys besides a private property that increases this sum to over \$100,000.

General Fremont's friends urge him for the mission to France.

General William A. Bowles, of New Albany, Indiana, and a leader of the Sons of Liberty, was divorced from his wife a few days since, to whom \$25,000 alimony was decreed. Bowles, with two other conspirators, was once condemned to death for giving aid and comfort to the rebels, but is now serving out the commuted sentence of life imprisonment in the Columbus (Ohio) penitentiary. His wife expended \$2,000, every cent of her patrimony, in securing the commutation, and now obtains a divorce on the ground of adultery.

The propeller Volant, on Saturday, when a short distance above Henderson, Kentucky, on the Ohio River, exploded her boilers and sank, killing the engineer, Daniel Cooper, of Grave Creek, West Virginia, and injuring his brother, and Mr. Morris, the owner of the boat.

The Congressional Committee to investigate election frauds in New York has arrived in that city, and will commence sessions to-day.

Congress, by joint resolution, has agreed to adjourn from the 21st inst. to January 5th.

The operation of the Freedmen's Bureau closes on the first of January. Democrats will then sleep quietly.

There are rumors that the tax on whisky will be raised again to two dollars. We don't believe it. Congressmen would not make such fools of themselves. Were it done, it would be prima facie evidence that they were all members of the whisky ring, and speculators in the article.

We have come across two papers that endorse President Johnson's message. One is the Dispatch, and the other is the London Standard and Herald, the organ of the Tory party of England! Twin sisters.

We have added fifteen new subscribers to the JOURNAL the past week. Room for more. Send them in.

The Dispatch, in some remarks upon "the Post Office," says:

"We hope our people will take the matter in hand, and select some competent trustworthy person for the position, and circulate a petition for signatures, irrespective of party. We care not what the individuals politics may be, so that he is 'honest and competent.'"

The democracy have a peculiar way of their own of doing business. It may be thought all right and honest under their rule—"all is fair in politics"—but to a mind that believes in the old maxim—"honesty is the best policy," in all things, in politics as well as in all the other departments of life—it don't look that way. Had Seymour been elected, that paragraph would never have been written. "Politics," and not "honest and competent," would then have been the rule. Indeed, in the heat of the campaign, when they had worked themselves into the belief that Seymour would be elected—(and they did believe it, for they said so!)—they went so far as to designate the man for the Post Office.

They did not even ask "our people" for their consent—the "clique" said it must be so, and that was sufficient. But now—Seymour being defeated, and circumstances somewhat different—they "hope our people will take the matter in hand." Bah! The meanest kind of demagoguery and nothing else.

But the "clique" need have no fears—the "people" will take hold of the matter, in this as in all things else for the honest and economical administration of the government. They have already taken "hold of the matter," in that they have elected Gen. Grant President. His administration is to be one of and for the people. In his letter of acceptance he said he should have no policy but that of the "will of the people." It is not to be an administration of "one man power," or even "clique power," but an administration of the people for the good of the people.

One of the boilers, at Orange Furnace, Jackson, exploded on the 13th inst. The boiler, 38 feet long, was found three hundred and sixty feet from the place where it exploded. No person was injured, but there was a general destruction of property around the place where the explosion occurred.

The news from Eastern Europe is warlike. Hostilities have broken out between Turkey and Greece, growing out of the Greek sympathy with the Cretan rebellion. It would seem from the latest dispatches, that nothing but the peremptory intervention of the great powers can restore peace.

The re-union of Army officers, at Chicago, last week, was a grand affair. Some two or three thousand were present. Gen. Sherman made the welcoming address. They had a very pleasant and enjoyable time.

The Dispatch, speaking of the President's message, says:

"It is acknowledged by all thinking men, to be the ablest document ever emanating from President Johnson."

In speaking of the public debt, "the ablest document" says:

"The general impression as to the exorbitance of existing rates of interest has led to an inquiry in the public mind respecting the consideration which the Government has actually received for its bonds, and the conclusion is becoming prevalent that the amount which it obtained was in real money three or four hundred per cent less than the obligations which it issued in return."

"Three or four hundred per cent. less!" Any school boy will tell you that one hundred per cent. less covers the whole amount, and therefore absurd to speak of "three or four hundred per cent. less."

"Ablest document." Better go back to Tennessee and mend breaches.

Then, again, we have the President's plan for paying the public debt. Here it is, in his own words:

"Our national credit should be sacredly observed, but in making provision for our creditors we should not forget what is due to the masses of the people. It may be assumed that the holders of our securities have already received upon their bonds a larger amount than their original investment, measured by the gold standard. Upon this statement of facts it would seem but just and equitable that the six per cent. interest now paid by the government should be applied to the reduction of the principal in semi-annual installments, which in sixteen years and eight months would liquidate the entire debt."

In other words, if you loan a man one hundred dollars, and he keeps it so long that the interest have received equals the amount of the note, then you must not receive any more interest, but may be paid the principal in semi-annual installments of six per cent. That is a new way of paying a debt. It is simply repudiation, and it is, probably, this feature of the message which induces the Dispatch to speak of it as "the ablest document ever emanating from President Johnson."

"Ablest document!" Wonderful, isn't it?

News from the Sandwich Islands says:

"The American residents of Honolulu, on the reception of the news of the election of Grant and Colfax, had a torchlight procession. The shipping in the harbor, and the greater portions of the flagstaffs in the city, displayed burning."

A professed preacher, by the name of HENRY HOGGARD, was arrested recently, in the back part of the county, charged with attempting to commit a rape. The examining magistrate sent the case to the Grand Jury. While in charge of the constable, and while pretending to be looking for security for his appearance at court, he eluded the vigilance of that officer, and, like the "democrat" editor and Probate Judge of Holmes county, who was indicted for making illegal votes, "decamped."

But, unlike said "democrat" editor and Probate Judge, our criminal has not been found. He is *non est*. He came from West Virginia, and has no doubt gone whence he came. We can spare him. His morality don't suit Gallia county. Because of the profession of the old sinner, we have been watching the Dispatch for an account of the matter, done upon its sensational style—a text for the slaughter of preachers in general, and this one in particular. But not a word have we seen. Can it be possible that its vials of wrath are closed because he was a preacher of the "Nashy" school, and not one of the "I-o-i-p-e-r-s-w-a-t-i-o-n"? We trust not!

That would look bad. If he was a "poor negro," who, in search of knowledge of the common Father of us all, should enter a church for that purpose, you might be sure that same "Springfield" correspondent of the Dispatch would ventilate the matter fully. But in this case it was "my bull that gored the ox," and that, in the view of the "Chicago" concern, makes all the difference in the world.

The Defiance (Ohio) Democrat says: "General Durbin Ward is proposed for the next Democratic candidate for Governor. General Ward, of any other Lincoln, war General would run quite as well up this way without the prefix. Just excuse us from any more Generals."

The above is so purely "democratic" that it found its way into the Dispatch, from which sheet we clip it. No "more Generals." That is a lick at Frank Blair. Give it to him, and all the rest like him. After fighting to save the government, they have no business to be "democratic."

It is a fact, sir, notwithstanding it may look miraculous to the readers of such sheets. We have found a democratic paper that speaks in terms of commendation of a minister. It is the West Union Defender. Cause why—the preacher is a democrat! Both facts are so unusual that they require to be noted.

An important case, involving the constitutionality of the Legal Tender act, is now before the Supreme Court of the United States, sitting at Washington. The case has been argued, and a decision may be expected in the course of two or three weeks. The question is one of great interest to the country. Should the Legal Tender act be declared unconstitutional, and the prevailing opinion is that it will be, it will have the effect to make gold the medium of contracts and business, and greenbacks would be quoted at their value in gold, as they now are in London and California.

The Cincinnati Gazette, gold authority in financial matters, in view of a decision declaring the act unconstitutional, remarks as follows:

"What would be the effect of a decision that the Legal Tender act is illegal? We do not suppose that the decision will disturb contracts made on the basis of the legal tender. We do not suppose that a legal decision will make men pay more than they contracted to pay. The decision would make the act illegal as to contracts previously made, and would abolish the paper legal tender for future contracts. It would leave them to be paid in coin; but the courts would not render judgment for more than the coin value of the consideration of such contracts at the time they were made. We conclude that this will be the operation, because both parties to a contract upon the paper tender basis understand and agree that the consideration which is expressed in dollars means a measure which is from thirty to forty cents less than a dollar. A legal decision that would make the debtor pay more than he agreed to pay, and more than the creditor's bond called for, would be a monstrous thing.

Therefore we do not expect that any great disturbance would be made in existing debts if the tender act were declared illegal, except in those that date back of the tender act. It would make a rattling among the dry bones of these, but would do no injustice.

Then the question is, how would the decision affect the currency of these notes in trade? We do not suppose it would disturb them at all. The re-availability of the notes for public uses, their ultimate security, their availability in settling all debts that were created on their basis, and the necessity of using a currency which now fills all the channels of circulation, would keep them at the rate which the operation of the present trade conditions has given them.

There would be two kinds of currency recognized by all, as the government declared illegal, except in those that date back of the tender act. It would make a rattling among the dry bones of these, but would do no injustice.

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FROM PHILADELPHIA.

Correspondence of the Gallipolis Journal.

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 12, 1868.

MY DEAR JOURNAL.—After a most delightful fall, overcoats, furs, muffled hands and necks, with the thermometer marking from 15 to 20 above zero, admissions still that winter is upon us. Well, let the "blustering rascal" come, like true philosophers we'll welcome him to our grate-full firesides, and drive dull care to blazes. In less than a fortnight the holidays will be here.

Already the children's eyes begin to sparkle and dance as they gaze into the windows of the thirty shoppes, who, with practiced eyes, display their wares in the most seductive manner. The Yule-tide time and New Year are most profitable harvests to these caterers to youthful taste, and the demolition of pocket books.

Business is still quite lively in our city. Our manufacturers, always celebrated for the staple quality of their wares, are all full of orders, and the probability is, will keep so, until the next season commences. Amusements are in full-tide, and what, with opera, theatres, concerts, circuses, lectures, etc., we have a gay time.

Being something of a student, and, gratified myself somewhat on my powers of endurance, I charged my pipe, last night, and tackled the President's message. I struggled with it manfully, and although I accomplished the task of reading it, yet I swear to you I don't know what it is all about. All I could get out of it was, that the country was in a bad way, and that the country was in a bad way, and that the country was in a bad way.

What I thought had received its eternal quietus in November. I did intend to devote this evening to the reports of the various Secretaries, but my experience with "A. J." last night, has forever robbed my mind of the brilliant futilities of these worthy gentlemen. "Not for Joseph, if he knows it."

Congress has put on its harness, and seems to be getting ready for work in earnest. There is plenty to do, and it behooves them to do it well.

It brings to memory a vivid recollection of the good old times of years ago, to see the name of Nix to the front of the gallant and brave. (Parenthetically, it may be unkind to do so far back, but you are an unconscionable, and I very much fear, an incorrigible old bachelor, and it is but retributive justice to remind the fair dames of your Gallie city that you are no "spring chicken.") Twenty years ago, "A. H. M. Jones," friend, what changes have there been since that time! We had then just closed a successful war against the Greasers, beyond the Rio Grande, and placed the highest award of the nation upon the brow of one of its heroes. And now, the grand Captain of the late and most horrible war, the "Greaser" friend, has received at the hands of a grateful people the highest commission within their gift; and his name an almost hallowed one in every mansion and cot in the land. Albeit my own political opinions are not exactly of your "side of the house," yet I cannot resist the inclination to accord to greatness and worth their true reward of praise. It may seem heretical in me, an "unfettered" apostle in the ranks of the "great unwashed," yet I cannot help thinking he is "the right man in the right place."

A soldier who has risen from a sort of Inspectorship to hunt up, and report on the number and efficiency of old "fuses" and "shot-guns," and who, in the General's of our whole armies, and successfully close the war, and from that to be overwhelmingly elected President of the United States, is a man of whom no other word can be written than GREAT, and in big letters at that. It would seem that even the weak juddies of those very weekly newspapers, which the country is cursed, would see *foot and ass* reflected in every sentence they write to the contrary. I try to reconcile myself to the decrees of Providence, and endeavor to school myself in the belief that all things are created and exist for some good purpose, but why a community should be afflicted and cursed with a certain class of newspapers, (God save the title!) I would like to write the history of some that I know. When I am unfortunate enough to read their foul-mouthed twaddle, I cannot help thinking of "Tam O'Shanter's" midnight ride, when she of the "Catty Sack" was after him!

Say, Tam O'Shanter, you'll get your fairing, in hell if they roast you like a herring!" I had intended to write of some of the changes that twenty years have wrought in Gallipolis. From a village of a few hundred inhabitants to a city of nearly as many thousands its wealth, etc., and a newspaper is no longer unknown, and as of yore I think I hear you say—"copy!" of my sight you miserable Devil, our space is filled!" Some other time, when I am "of the vein," I will with your permission, trouble you again. For the present, as Father Ritchie used to say, *nous verrons!*

Sad Accident.

The Vinton Record of the 17th inst. says:

We learn that Mrs. W. S. Bundy, a most estimable young lady, daughter-in-law of Hon. H. S. Bundy, was thrown from her horse, near Hamden, and killed, on Tuesday evening last. She was on her way home from Hamden at the time of the accident, and it is supposed that she had become frightened, and she was thrown at a railroad crossing, where her hat was found, and dragged by the footsome three or four hundred yards, being killed almost instantly. This is the third member of Mr. Bundy's household that has been taken away in less than two years. His son, Wm. Sanford Bundy, husband of the lady whose sad death is here chronicled, died in January, 1867, from the effect of wounds received while in the army.

Gen. Grant was in Cincinnati last Friday, on his way to Washington from the reunion at Chicago. He declined a public reception.

Specie Payments.

A large number of bills, having in view the resumption of specie payments, have been introduced into Congress, but the one which seems to meet with most favor is that of Senator Morton, of Indiana, presented to the Senate last week. He supported it in a long and very able speech—one that was more attentively listened to than any speech made in Congress for some years.

Senator Morton proposes to resume specie payments July 1, 1871, on the part of the government, and six months later banks are to pay specie. The 1st day of January, 1872, United States notes shall cease to be a legal tender in payment of debts, but shall be receivable in payment of government dues. The Senator proposes to accomplish this without any previous measure to reduce the currency. We copy his argument upon this point.

It is said by many that the currency is redundant, and that we cannot return to specie payments until contraction has taken place. We are referred to the fact that before the war, in 1860, the entire bank circulation was but \$202,000,000, and the specie in the vaults of the banks \$30,000,000, making less than \$300,000,000, but at that time gold and silver were in circulation as a part of the currency, and it is probable that there was more than \$150,000,000 in the country besides that which was held in the banks.

This would bring up the mixed currency to nearly \$450,000,000. The Dispatch of the 10th inst. states that in 1861, estimated the amount of gold and silver in the country at \$275,000,000, which is nearly \$500,000,000 beyond my estimate; but there was another form of currency then much more in use than now, which must not be overlooked in considering the aggregate progress of the country since 1860, the money consisted of the issue of local banks, and was not current except in the locality of the banks by which it was issued. Then the paper money of the Northwestern, Southern and Western States was not current in New York, and was not received there in payment of debts. The bank notes of the Northern States were not current in the Southern States, and vice versa. Hence, the payment of debts and commercial transactions between different parts of the country were conducted by bills of exchange and promissory notes, which amounted to many hundred millions of dollars during the year.

This form of currency is still used, but not nearly to the same extent as before the war. Now, the greenbacks and National Bank notes are of equal value in every part of the United States, and are transmitted in payment of debts and transaction of business from one part of the country to another, by means of express companies and otherwise, to the amount of many hundred millions every year. The books of the express companies show an immense transportation of paper money, the amount of which cannot be accurately ascertained, but it would be a moderate computation to say that \$100,000,000 of our currency are now used in that way, which was before the war supplied by bills of exchange and promissory notes; and when we consider the rapid development and opening up of the Western States and Territories, the vast extension of business, the magnitude of the national debt, the necessary collections of large revenues and the greatly increased expense of the Government in its general administration, we may reasonably conclude that there is an actual demand for an increase of the currency over the wants of 1860 to the amount of at least \$150,000,000.

Therefore, when you add to the actual currency of 1860, about \$450,000,000, the amount of the currency now used in the places of former bills of exchange and promissory notes, and the increased demand for currency otherwise growing out of the above referred to facts, it is doubtful whether the currency is more redundant now than it was in 1860, when the banks were paying specie; and not redundant, then contraction is not a necessary preliminary measure to a return of specie payments.

There are those, able financiers too, who doubt the practicability of any scheme that does not, as a preliminary, reduce the volume of currency to figures near that of the amount of gold in the country. These theorists believe that any other plan would bring disaster and ruin upon the country, and hence oppose that of Gov. Morton.

Where the true and safe road lies it seems to be difficult to find. Opinions are almost as varied as the minds which form them.

But, whatever may be the result of the bill, Gov. Morton's standing, and his zeal in this important cause, will secure for his plan the careful consideration of the country. It will produce discussion, and that, honestly performed, will bring good results.

HORACE GREELLY, in the Tribune of Monday, opposes Senator Morton's scheme for the resumption of specie payments. GREELLY favors immediate resumption, and believes that there will be no ruin to the Treasury if specie payments were begun to-morrow. He says the one thing useful for resumption is to provide some form of national obligations which holders of greenbacks will prefer to coin, and this can be obtained by making a bond which shall be perfectly secure.

When doctors disagree, who shall decide?

LETTING OF CONTRACTS FOR WORK ON THE C. & O. R. R.—A large number of contractors were present at the office of the Chief Engineer, at Cabell C. H., on the occasion of opening the bids for work on the western portion of the Chesapeake and Ohio Railroad. The following awards were made:

One-mile section at Barboursville, to Kelzer & Co.

One-mile section at Ceredo, to Plymale & Co. Work to commence this month.

Bids were received for 15 miles to mouth of Scary, which will act badly bruised and blood running down his face. The victims present, and a most ghastly and appalling spectacle.

Prof. Eli F. TAPPAN, Professor of Mathematics in the Ohio University, at Athens, having been elected President of Kenyon College, his place in the Ohio University has been supplied by the election of Col. W. H. G. Anaxer, a native of this county. Of Col. Anaxer, the Athens Messenger says:

Prof. Anaxer graduated here with the highest honors of his class in 1860. After graduating he superintended the Harmer Union Schools until he entered the U. S. service in 1861 as a private soldier in the 36th Ohio Regiment. He was at once elected Captain of Co. B, of that famous Regiment, and remained with it until the close of the war. In October, 1862, he was promoted to Major, and in